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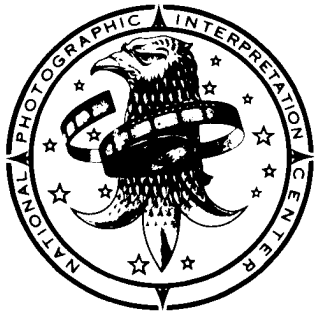
(See inside cover)



Summary Report

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER

IMPROVEMENT OF SPACE LAUNCH CAPABILITY IN CHINA (S)

~~Top Secret~~

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SR-033/77

JUNE 1977

Copy 133

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Improvement of Space Launch Capability in China (S)

(TSR) This report summarizes the construction activity at Shuang-cheng-tzu Missile Test Center (SCTMTC), China. When completed, this construction will double the space launch capability in China. Two major construction projects will give SCTMTC an added capacity to launch CSS-X-4/CSL-2 missiles. The first construction project, started in April 1976, was a new missile checkout and assembly building complex in the SSM support facility (Figure 1). The other major project, started between April and August 1976, was the modification of Launch Pad B-1 (Figure 2).

(TSR) Footings for the new rail-served missile checkout building were seen in April 1976. By February 1977 the building was externally complete. This building, while smaller than the older checkout building, appears to be quite capable of handling the CSS-X-4/CSL-2. A missile assembly building is connected to the checkout building by a low-roofed section. The high-bay portion of the assembly building is identical to the assembly building at Wu-chai MTC and Ching-yu MTC. They are approximately 25.0 meters long, and are probably used to service the missile.

(TSR) The modification to Launch Pad B-1 were initiated between April and August 1976. Canvas-covered stacks of construction material were present in late March 1976; this material was being used in August 1976 when the modifications were first observed. The modifications to the pad included changing the heights of the service platforms to approximately the same heights as the platforms at Pad B-2 and extending the propellant transfer pipelines from the B-2 storage tanks to the B-1 pad. a new launch stand assembly arrived by special railcar. When first observed, the railcar was canvas covered, the canvas had been removed (Figure 2); the launch stand assembly had been off-loaded (Figure 3A). Portions of the launch stand observed compare favorably to the two upper sections of the launch stand observed in 1971 and later installed at Pad B-2 (Figure 3B). The lower section of the stand was not observed and may still be in transit to SCTMTC.

(TSR When completed, these two construction projects will give China a greatly expanded capacity to launch earth satellites using the CSS-X-4/CSL-2 missile. Other sources indicate that the Chinese have successfully orbited five satellites using the CSL-2 space booster, and all have been assessed to be prototype reconnaissance satellites.* Since the Chinese have indicated that the first priority in their space program is military reconnaissance satellites, they may be approaching the start of a regular program of satellite reconnaissance. The construction of two CSS-X-4/CSL-2 launch positions would be a logical step in that program.

*DIA. *Analysis of Ballistic Missile Systems Activity-PRC*, PRC Satellite Launch History, p 50, Table VII (TOP SECRET RUFF

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Denied

List of Conversion Factors by Classification

UNITS OF LENGTH

IF YOU HAVE	*MULTIPLY BY*	*TO OBTAIN*
MILLIMETERS	0.0394	INCHES
CENTIMETERS	0.3937	INCHES
INCHES	25.4000	MILLIMETERS
INCHES	2.5400	CENTIMETERS
FEET	0.3048	METERS
FEET	0.0003	KILOMETERS
YARDS	0.9144	METERS
METERS	3.2808	FEET
METERS	0.0005	MILES(NAUTICAL)
METERS	1.0936	YARDS
KILOMETERS	3280.8400	FEET
KILOMETERS	0.6214	MILES(STATUTE)
KILOMETERS	0.5400	MILES(NAUTICAL)
MILES(STATUTE)	1.6093	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	6076.1154	FEET
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1.8520	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1852.0000	METERS

UNITS OF AREA

IF YOU HAVE	*MULTIPLY BY*	*TO OBTAIN*
SQUARE CENTIMETERS	0.1550	SQUARE INCHES
SQUARE INCHES	6.4516	SQUARE CENTIMETERS
SQUARE FEET	0.0929	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE YARDS	0.8361	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE METERS	10.7639	SQUARE FEET
SQUARE METERS	1.1960	SQUARE YARDS
SQUARE METERS	1.0000	CENTARES
SQUARE METERS	0.0002	ACRES
SQUARE METERS	0.0001	HECTARES
ACRES	4046.8564	SQUARE METERS
ACRES	0.4047	HECTARES
HECTARES	10000.0000	SQUARE METERS
HECTARES	2.4711	ACRES

UNITS OF MASS

IF YOU HAVE	*MULTIPLY BY*	*TO OBTAIN*
KILOGRAMS	2.2046	POUNDS(AVOIR.)
POUNDS(AVOIR.)	0.4536	KILOGRAMS
SHORT TONS	0.9072	METRIC TONS
METRIC TONS	1.1023	SHORT TONS
METRIC TONS	0.9842	LONG TONS
LONG TONS	1.0160	METRIC TONS

UNITS OF VOLUME

IF YOU HAVE	*MULTIPLY BY*	*TO OBTAIN*
LITERS	0.2642	GALLONS
LITERS	0.0063	BARRELS(POL)
LITERS	0.0010	CUBIC METERS
GALLONS	3.7854	LITERS
GALLONS	0.1337	CUBIC FEET
GALLONS	0.0238	BARRELS(POL)
GALLONS	0.0038	CUBIC METERS
BUSHELS	0.0352	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC FEET	7.4805	GALLONS
CUBIC FEET	0.1781	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC FEET	0.0283	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC YARDS	0.7646	CUBIC METERS
BARRELS(POL)	158.9873	LITERS
BARRELS(POL)	42.0000	GALLONS
BARRELS(POL)	5.6146	CUBIC FEET
BARRELS(POL)	0.1590	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC METERS	1000.0000	LITERS
CUBIC METERS	264.1721	GALLONS
CUBIC METERS	35.3147	CUBIC FEET
CUBIC METERS	28.3776	BUSHELS
CUBIC METERS	6.2898	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC METERS	1.3080	CUBIC YARDS

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